

REMARKS

In March 25, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-10 and 12-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. to Hulsbergen; rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Hulsbergen in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,454,051 to Goepfert, rejected claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hulsbergen, and rejected claims 19-22 under §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hulsbergen in view of JP-07318275-A to Sanden Corp OR EP-0466219A1 to DeVries.

Applicant has amended the claims to more clearly define the invention. Specifically, applicant has amended the claims to include in each claim the element or step of providing a template seat have a plurality of grooves therein for receiving a protruding part, wherein the grooves are parallel to a conduit or pipe and are radially spaced from one another by approximately 10-30°. None of the prior art references cited by the examiner disclose or suggest such a template seat.

Further, Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's asserted combination of Hulsbergen with Sanden Corp. There is absolutely no motivation in either reference for combining the Sanden Corp, which is a heat exchanger, with Hulsbergen.

Conclusion

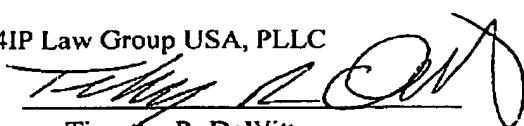
For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present patent application is in condition for allowance. An early indication of the allowability of the present patent application is therefore respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with the undersigned would expedite passage of the present patent application to issue, he is invited to call on the number below.

If any fees are due in connection with this response, including fees for any necessary extensions of time or new claims, such additional fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2837.

Respectfully submitted,

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